

20010102.ba v03_n071.bam.20010102

>From ???@??? Tue Jan 2 17:26:42 2001 -0600
Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 17:24:16 CST
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3071
Message-Id: <20010103003542.6E2255F45@devel43.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 3071

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: The 6AF6 has been spoken for...
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 2) Re: The 6AF6 has been spoken for...
by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
- 3) WTB: EFJ Courier escutcheon!
by Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
- 4) ADMINISTRIVIA: Buying and Selling Guidelines
by listown@nanniandjack.com (Mail List Owner)
- 5) B-Z O'scope fix?
by "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 6) AR amp??
by "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 7) Help Needed
by GeorgeHumphrey <gah@koyote.com>
- 8) SIGSALY
by Jerry Proc <jproc@idirect.com>
- 9) West Coast Military Radio Collectors Group
by mikhael_brown@agilent.com
- 10) 6L7 RAG CHEW
by "Hue Miller" <kargokult@proaxis.com>
- 11) Marconi Electra or Eddystone 830 ?
by "JOSE V. GAVILA (EB5AGV/EC5AAU)" <eb5agv@ctv.es>
- 12) Re: numerical indicator tubes
by "Hue Miller" <kargokult@proaxis.com>
- 13) SPEAKING OF TT'S
by JOHN.SEHRING@ecunet.org
- 14) Re: 6L7 RAG CHEW
by "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 15) WTD: Radio Hbk 15th ed, Tek 82
by Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
- 16) RADIO DESIGNERS HANDBOOKS
by jackiv@juno.com
- 17) FS: Eico and Hickok tube testers
by Avery Comarow <acomarow@usnews.com>
- 18) RE: numerical indicator tubes

by Morris Odell <Morris0@vifp.monash.edu.au>
19) Old Test Gear FS
by Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
20) Numerical indicating tubes
by James.Reid@merisel.com

Date: Sun, 31 Dec 2000 23:08:45 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: The 6AF6 has been spoken for...
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G6H00E432CZT8@mta6.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Herb;

> I believe that during the early days of TV that picture tube filament
> step-up transformers were used-and were called 'CRT Rejuvenators.'

Those little step-up transformers were called 'brighteners' and 'savers'.
The rejuvenator was a device that allowed you to zap away the narrowed
opening in the accelerator electrode(s). I never used one, not being a TV
repair type, but that is what I was told. The practice was abandoned when
color took over.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 08:56:54 -0600 (CST)
From: Bob Roehrig <bproehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: The 6AF6 has been spoken for...
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.96.1010101085503.13872D-1000000@admin.aurora.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sun, 31 Dec 2000, Arden Allen wrote:

> Those little step-up transformers were called 'brighteners' and 'savers'.
> The rejuvenator was a device that allowed you to zap away the narrowed
> opening in the accelerator electrode(s). I never used one, not being a TV
> repair type, but that is what I was told. The practice was abandoned when
> color took over.

We used them on a few color sets as well. They are just a small step-up

transformer to boost the filament voltage - used when the emission dropped off. They also acted as isolation transformers so if the CRT had a cathode to filament short and you lost control of brightness, the "brightner" solved that problem too.

"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"

E-mail: broehrig@admin.aurora.edu or k9eui@arrl.net 73 de Bob, K9EUI
CIS: Data / Telecom Aurora University, Aurora, IL
630-844-4898 Fax 630-844-4222
PLEASE PUT ALL REPLIES IN ASCII TEXT ONLY

Message-ID: <3A50D473.5D59EBD9@execpc.com>
Date: Mon, 01 Jan 2001 13:03:15 -0600
From: Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: WTB: EFJ Courier escutcheon!
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm sure that this is a long shot, but I need the escutcheon for the Courier. The Desk KW is similar and will work if I can't find the Courier dial.

I would consider buying an entire Johnson Courier or a parts rig.

Thank you!

Joe Eide - KB9R

Message-Id: <200101011915.f01JF0o10572@osr506.nanniandjack.com>
From: listown@nanniandjack.com (Mail List Owner)
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: ADMINISTRIVIA: Buying and Selling Guidelines
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 11:15:00 -0800 (PST)

Gang-

This periodic posting is intended as a gentle nudge and suggestion which should improve the quality of posts to the BoatAnchors list, and maintain our excellent (and high) signal to noise ratio...

The list culture has developed to include "for sale" and "wanted" posts. Originally, all buying and selling traffic was focused on finding parts to complete a restoration. As the list has evolved,

there has been an increase in buying and selling activity, which may not be all bad.

There is, however, a real need to observe certain conventions, lest this otherwise benign activity turn into a real disturbance to the real purpose of the list: discussions of radio equipment using vacuum tubes, including the life and times of the designers and users of such gear.

Please observe these guidelines:

There is never a reason for an auction post or update on the Boatanchors List... comments about gear at auction elsewhere are noise, and those who would care already visit the auction sites, and those who do not frequent the auctions do not want to hear about it... simple policy -- keep this off the list!

- 1) LIMIT the frequency of for sale postings... once a month is a good starting point
- 2) DO NOT post endless "xxx is sold" to the entire list... you offered it for sale, and it is not considerate of list resources (which include the time and energy of the other list members) to burden the list with these senseless notices. Use direct email to those who responded, or, if you don't want to answer them personally, just don't use the list to advertise them for sale!
- 3) AVOID even the mere faint appearance that you are posting items for sale as a regular adjunct to your business dealings. This has become more of a problem lately with some long lists showing up regularly on the main list, or with dealers who appear to be using the list for their personal advertising advantage. Failure to observe these basics *will* result in banishment from the list -- just don't do it! When even a shadow of doubt creeps in, read the "Welcome" message again... it spells it out!
- 4) DO be considerate of those on the list in your for sale or wanted postings. Keep them short, infrequent, and ONLY include items specifically appropriate to the list -- NO solid state gear is obvious, but try to avoid pushing the envelope in any area.
- 5) LONG lists and estate offerings should be sent to me at:
listtown@nanniandjack.com
so they may be uploaded to the archives for email, web, or ftp retrieval.
- 6) We now have a web page up. Go to:
<http://www.theporch.com>
and follow the "ListProc Web Interface" Link to get registered

and use the web interface, which allows searching of previous articles and the archived text files.

Thanks for your understanding and help in making the boatanchors list have the highest signal to noise on the InterNet.

--

73

Jack, W4KH/Mobile - - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Owner - - -
listown@nanniandjack.com - "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose"
"Il n'y a que les idiots qui ne changent jamais d'idee"

Mon Jan 1 11:15:00 PST 2001

Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 17:08:00 -0500 (EST)
From: "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
Message-Id: <200101012208.RAA15575@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: B-Z O'scope fix?

B-Z is bug zapper

Little beaut here has a 1kv 3ma small xfrmr inside. How do I know? Needed emergency power cord & not much current need for a B-Z @ 24F

Well it looks perfect for a 50s Eico / Heapkit / Premier sorta thing who's HV wdg. has opened.*

Anyone tried it?

Marty

*I got an Eico running years back with a SS neg.-going tripler off active half of a 700vct RX replacement xfrmr. which fed the plate of a stock 6AX5. That worked too

Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 17:18:21 -0500 (EST)
From: "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
Message-Id: <200101012218.RAA15589@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: AR amp??

Anyone ever see one?

It's a SS bookshelf thing made late 50s (?) that's absent fm Sams.

Have one that's a deadie but looks conventional w. totem-pole outputs
'n stuff. Like lit/schem. copy

Hope springs eternal

Tks

Marty ... who missed Dillman et. al. for SKN due to travel durnit

and why do I want this AR running? Doing AWA talk on the
"5 faces of Henry"

Henry Kloss

1. AR the amp
2. KLH Mod 18 tuner
3. Advent 2 "smaller"s
4. Boston Audio (nada)
5. Tivoli radio (mini KLH 21 w. AM)

Want 1, 2, &3 playing together with 5

Will trade 2 1L4s for that AR amp. data (had to say it)

Message-Id: <3.0.6.32.20010101180234.00845d10@mail.koyote.com>
Date: Mon, 01 Jan 2001 18:02:34 -0600
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: GeorgeHumphrey <gah@koyote.com>
Subject: Help Needed
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

BAers,

I tried this message a couple of days ago, but we were probably all tied
up with the old white bearded fellow. I could use a little help with this
item.

I was at a flea market the other day and walked upon a Navy Oscilloscope
AN/USM-38. It was furnished to the Navy Dept. Bureau of Ships under
contract N0bsr 59445 and is serial 1874. It was manufactured by
Trad Electronics Corp. I was told it worked but I asked him to not plug it
into the AC as I wanted to go through the caps and tubes first. Externally
it saw rougher service in the back of the flea market vendor's van than
in the Navy, internally it is clean and complete.

I have two questions;

1. Where might I find a operations manual and a overhaul/maintenance manual that would include the parts lists and alignment information?
2. Is this unit a good o'scope for trouble shooting the old BAs?

73 de George
KC5WBV

Message-ID: <3A5122B1.E8DC118A@idirect.com>
Date: Mon, 01 Jan 2001 19:37:05 -0500
From: Jerry Proc <jproc@idirect.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: SIGSALY
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Folks,

Just released by the National Security Agency several months ago, this web page features SIGSALY the largest crypto machine ever built. It's function was to provide secure voice communications for senior leaders during WW II. This system laid the groundwork for today's digital revolution.

<http://www.nsa.gov/wwii/index.html>

--
Jerry Proc VE3FAB
e-mail: jproc@idirect.com
<http://webhome.idirect.com/~jproc/ve3fab>
HMCS HAIDA Historic Naval Ship. Toronto, Ontario

Message-ID: <999F6F1E8EB8D311AC190090277A7726033FA90F@axcs08.cos.agilent.com>
From: mikhael_brown@agilent.com
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: West Coast Military Radio Collectors Group
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 18:38:15 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

The webpage for the West Coast Military Radio Collectors Group has been updated and should be usable with more browsers. I tested it with Netscape

and Internet explorer. If any one is using others browsers, please let me know how it works with them. I added more the related links page and the latest information I have on the upcoming meeting at SLO in May.

The URL is: <http://www.syzen.com/~milradio> or
<http://www.syzen.com/users/milradio>

73's

Mike

Message-ID: <00e501c07460\$5cbdd100\$bbc36ac6@oemcomputer>
From: "Hue Miller" <kargokult@proaxis.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: 6L7 RAG CHEW
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 18:04:31 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This isn't about the correct touch-up color for 6L7's, but maybe it's acceptable.

In the recent past we discussed, with guesses but no definite conclusion, the use of 6L7's in the IF position, as i recall, in the Nat'l NC-44, and maybe some others i don't recall - but maybe Patterson or Bretting or some such.

>From a build-it article in August, 1937, Short Wave & Television,
"The SW&T Communications Receiver" :

"How Good AVC Action was Provided

"Next was the problem of of I.F. amplification and a method of attaining automatic volume control; immediately we decided that iron core I.F. transformers should be used, and it had been demonstrated long ago that one stage of I.F. was not entirely satisfactory, although very good results can be obtained with that arrangement, so two stages of amplification was decided upon. Efficient AVC meant incorporating at least another tube to get satisfactory results following conventional arrangements. This difficulty was overcome by employing two 6L7's in the the I.F. stages with grids No. 1 and No. 3 connected in parallel insofar as AVC action is concerned, thus permitting very sharp cut-off, and the voltage developed in the diode second detector proved to be more than sufficient for excellent AVC action. In fact, we have

yet to see a set using conventional AVC methods which worked any more satisfactorily than this one. As a means of checking signal strength we employed a 0 to 5 mA meter in the plate circuit of the first I.F. tube."

Schematic shows conventional diode arrangement of -AVC from diode thru smoothing circuit, then thru 1 meg resistors to signal grid (G1, grid cap) of each 6L7. G3 of each 6L7 goes to the AVC side (not grid / signal side) of each 1 M resistor.

So- apparently this use of 6L7s was to get strong AVC action without adding another AVC amplifier stage, such as used in HRO. I was quite surprised to read that what was desirable here was "very sharp cut-off", in standard practice you use remote cutoff tubes with maybe delayed AVC (DAVC) besides. Certainly sharp cutoff would get you wham-o fast acting very noticeable AVC. What was the downside of this? Why was it so shortly abandoned? Maybe the extreme reaction to strong signal input, caused cross modulation? This receiver also has no RF, but a "regenerative first detector" (mixer). Weird. Maybe as time went on, people were less inclined to have to deal with hot-rod type performance, with tweak controls to finesse, and edge-of-stability type performance.

Your comment?

-Hue Miller

Message-Id: <3.0.5.32.20010102075150.007ee580@pop.ctv.es>

Date: Tue, 02 Jan 2001 07:51:50 +0100

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: "JOSE V. GAVILA (EB5AGV/EC5AAU)" <eb5agv@ctv.es>

Subject: Marconi Electra or Eddystone 830 ?

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Happy New Year!!!

Well, following up with my post about the Marconi receivers offering, I finally decided to go for a Marconi Electra (yes, the Atalanta is better, but in this case, the Electra is in better shape and I just can take one). But then... I got another receiver to choose, an Eddystone 830. I know it is like comparing apples and oranges... but this 830 is in great shape also... which one would you take?. Why?

Thanks for your help!

JOSE

73 EB5AGV / EC5AAU - JOSE V. GAVILA
La Canyada - Valencia (SPAIN)

EB5AGV Vintage Radio Site: <http://www.geocities.com/eb5agv>

European Boatanchors List: http://www.eGroups.com/list/euro_ba_swap

Message-ID: <014201c07490\$9af16d80\$bbc36ac6@oemcomputer>
From: "Hue Miller" <kargokult@proaxis.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: numerical indicator tubes
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 23:49:57 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just fired up a Monroe calculator which uses some kind of numeric indicator tubes for display. I wonder: what era is this? What is the generic name for such "tubes" ? Do they "burn out" or lose conductance or what? Does the HRO-500 use the same kind of indicator tubes? Do these "tubes" have a unified nomenclature system, or was it every manufacturer for hisself?
Tnx, Hue Miller

Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 10:20:55 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <200101021520.f02FKsv10722@ecunet.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: SPEAKING OF TT'S
From: JOHN.SEHRING@ecunet.org

I too cked all my tube testers for correct AC supply voltages using DMM.

First, I looked at what setting of the "line voltage adjust" on the TT gave exactly 6.300..00 (whatever your DMM can *accurately* & *precisely* do!) VAC for 6-volt tubes. Some TT's have an under chassis adjustment for calibrating that, e.g. adjustable rheostat (nice olde word, eh?). If not, I would play with fixed resistor values to get it just right.

IOW, when in the line voltage adj mode, & you put the meter on the "set line" mark, you must see exactly 6.3 VAC at the tube. If not, it's not cal'd & you may be accepting/rejecting tubes erroneously although. While you're at it, ck all the other fil voltages too. But, if 6.3 is spot on, others should be too. After all, power xfms don't age in the turns ratio department.

One 50 yr old Jackson was only a little off; a 60 yr old Jackson was about 10% off, don't remember which way. B-K 700 & 707 do not have or need one!

Also, most all TT's themselves contain tubes. Test (or sub for) those too! It wouldn't hurt to ck plate voltage & such too.

What I haven't yet gotten into is cal'ing the actual pass/fail, transconductance or emission readings. Need to look at Radiotron which has a whole section on that. I would learn a lot more about from tubes by doing that, I think.

-John Sehring (12/30/00, temp. at MWR MedCenter, Zion IL) UCC WB0EQ

Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 10:38:44 -0500 (EST)
From: "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
Message-Id: <200101021538.KAA16785@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: 6L7 RAG CHEW

AKA NC44 redux

Hue I started the thread with the Radiomarine AR8505 that I believe you sed was a sheep (Nat'l 44) in wolf's (RCA) clothing.

The NC44 & NC46 front-ends were exactly the RX as the obscure SW &T art'l you found.

No RFA, 6L7 mixer (regen.?), 2 6L7 IFs with side-slug (iron core) xfmrs.

Can't guess why a sharp-cut-off characteristic was needed but instead venture the SW &T "engineer" had his terminology & priorities twisted & was instead acting on some Precambrian RCA design note.

Never got any idea why the AR8505 was repackaged & sold. AC-DC cheapie that'd work on lots old boats & mighta been attractive commercially -OR- they were give-away spiffs for good customers.

Neat tip that SW &T art'l

Marty

>From a build-it article in August, 1937, Short Wave & Television,

"The SW&T Communications Receiver" :

"How Good AVC Action was Provided

Message-ID: <20010102161436.25737.qmail@mellon.com>
From: Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: WTD: Radio Hbk 15th ed, Tek 82
Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 11:09:15 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

WANTED: I need to find a copy of the Radio Handbook, 15th edition. I have a 17th edition to trade or can pay cash.

Tektronix Wanted: I'd like to find a good working Type 82 plug-in for a Tek 585A 'scope at a reasonable price.

Any help with this stuff would be appreciated.
Thanks.
73, Don Merz, N3RHT

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To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 12:06:36 +0000
Subject: RADIO DESIGNERS HANDBOOKS
Message-ID: <20010102.121715.-117703.3.jackiv@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: jackiv@juno.com

I am familiar with the 3rd and 4th editions But what or where are editions one and two?

good question?

jack K0EWU

Message-Id: <4.2.2.20010102145831.00aa06f0@ntpop.usnews.com>
Date: Tue, 02 Jan 2001 15:38:35 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: Avery Comarow <acomarow@usnews.com>
Subject: FS: Eico and Hickok tube testers
Cc: test-equipment@qth.net, dcboatanchors@qth.net
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

1. Hickok 600A. Cosmetics: The wood case is scuffed but solid. The front panel is shiny around the selector knobs. There is no rust, corrosion, or other notable physical defects. The roll chart works fine. Operation: This unit was completely reconditioned (including cleaning the socket pins) and recalibrated by Hickok guru Bill Waters in 1997 and has no known electrical problems. I have been using it as my main tester for the past three years. It has the elusive grid/plate clip lead. I will include a copy of the complete tube settings as well as settings for obsolete tubes. I will also include a solid-state plug-in replacement for the 83 tube at no extra charge if the buyer would like. Alan Douglas, a test equipment expert and publisher of a new book on tube testers and other gear, says replacing the 83 in this way should not alter the calibration and, of course, removes a significant load from the power transformer. \$200 firm plus shipping.

2. Eico 667. Cosmetics: The metal case is somewhat scuffed but completely intact. I have cleaned up the front panel to a conservative 8 or better. The roll chart works. All switches and controls work. I have treated the rotary switches with Deoxit, the Line rheostat with Deoxit followed by a lubricant Caig sells for controls, and the mechanical sliding parts of the pushbutton selector switch with a light application of Lubriplate. I repaired one broken wire and replaced the AC plug. The tester has been recalibrated in accordance with the procedure in the manual and tried on a number of different tube types with no problems. A copy of the tube settings and a supplement are included. \$150 firm plus shipping.

3. A second Eico 667. This is the virtual twin of the first Eico, except that I didn't have to replace the AC plug or fix a broken wire. I did the same restoration as I did on the first one. Same price: \$150 firm plus shipping.

Please note that I'm not calling any of these testers "mint" or anything of the kind. Heck, they're somewhere around 40 years old! I do think they are in very nice condition, and I'll guarantee that they won't be DOA. If something happens in shipping, let me know and I'll take back the unit if you'll pay to send it back. Fair enough?

Will deliver within 25 miles of D.C.

Let me know if you want more info, or call 202-955-2609 days, 301-983-2407 eves.

73, Avery W3AVE in Potomac, Md.

Message-ID:
<07A064EA6042D4118A62009027F70E77051758@nt_exchange.vifp.monash.edu.au>
From: Morris Odell <MorrisO@vifp.monash.edu.au>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: numerical indicator tubes
Date: Wed, 3 Jan 2001 08:39:34 +1100
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Hue and the gang,

> I just fired up a Monroe calculator which uses some kind
> of numeric indicator tubes for display. I wonder: what era
> is this? What is the generic name for such "tubes" ? Do they
> "burn out" or lose conductance or what? Does the HRO-500
> use the same kind of indicator tubes? Do these "tubes" have
> a unified nomenclature system, or was it every manufacturer
> for himself?

There are various different types of numerical indicator tubes. Most people know about "Nixies"* which are really a neon discharge lamp with multiple shaped elements. These are purely indicators and need to be energized appropriately by the circuit doing the counting. They are used in equipment I have from the late 1960s such as the HP 5245 counter.

There are also tubes that count ie: have 10 or more stable states that represent numbers etc. Some indicate as well. These include trochotrons and beam-X tubes (non indicating) and dekatrons and the unusual E1T which is a sort of mini-CRT.

There are several websites dedicated to these tubes. Do a search on the word "Nixie" and you will find a lot of information.

BTW I have just built a clock using Philips ZM1040 nixie type tubes which have 30mm high numbers. It looks wonderful. Finding the driver chips for these tubes (7441 or 74141) was very difficult but I finally found a place that deals in Soviet era Russian TTL which was able to sell me some.

* "Nixie" was a trademark of the Burroughs corp for neon indicator tubes with shaped electrodes. Many other manufacturers also made such tubes but they are all very commonly called nixies.

Hope this helps,

Morris VK3DOC

Message-ID: <20010102230027.21012.qmail@mellon.com>
From: Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: Merz Donald S <merz.ds@mellon.com>
Subject: Old Test Gear FS
Date: Tue, 2 Jan 2001 17:55:13 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

FOR SALE

Tektronix A plug-in s/n 003486. This is a 1950's vintage Tektronix single trace vertical amplifier plug-in for 500-series 'scopes. It works and looks good except for one corrosion spot at the binding post in the upper left corner. As-is. Complete. Unmodified. \$7

Tektronix CA Oscilloscope Plug-in s/n 061027. 1960's vintage dual trace plug-in with 24mhz bandwidth. Used in 500-series 'scopes. Looks good and works, though it has dirty controls. With original manual. \$13

Another Tektronix CA Oscilloscope Plug-in s/n 061027. 1960's vintage dual trace plug-in with 24mhz bandwidth. Used in 500-series 'scopes. Looks good and works, though it has dirty controls. No manual. \$8

Tektronix 81 plug-in adapters (have 2). These 1960 vintage plug-in adapters permit letter-series plug-ins to be used with the 585A 'scope. Both working well and looking good. One with original manual: \$10. One without manual: \$5

Tektronix 132 plug-in unit power supply. 1960 vintage Tektronix plug-in power supply that powers letter-series plug-ins to be used with any 'scope. Looks and works good. With original manual. Complete. Unmodified. \$19

General Electric YGS-3 Signal Generator s/n 2251848. Probably 1940's - vintage signal generator covering 1MC-320mc. With separate audio oscillator covering 100hz-12khz. FM 1MC+/- 20KC, 20MC +/- 3MC, and 50MC +/- 750KC. With probes and cables. This has a hinged door that opens to expose the panel. The cabinet has some paint scrapes but is in nice shape overall. The front panel is excellent. I tested this and could not get any output, though it is like brand new inside. Construction is 100% first-class--this must've cost a fortune in its

day. The tube lineup is 1-6SN7GT, 4-6AK6, 1-5Y3GT, 1-6AG5, 1-6SL7GT, 1-6AF6 Tuning Eye, 1-9006 and 1-6J6. Complete. Unmodified. As-is. Heavy. \$24

General Electric Oscilloscope Model CRO-3A. I think this is from the same era as the YGS-3 above. The case paint matches, though the front panels do not. Funky old scope with CRT hood and curved front edge that gives it quite an old timey look. Some paint scrapes on the cabinet. Wear on the front panel along with some scratches. Complete. Unmodified. Untested. As-is. \$5

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From: James.Reid@merisel.com
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Numerical indicating tubes
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-description: cc:Mail note part
Content-disposition: inline

All,

When I used to work for Decatur Electronics building radar guns, we used Numitrons for the readouts. These were 7 segment readouts that used a tungsten filament for each segment, the whole thing being in an evacuated glass envelope.

I wonder how many people got tickets when a filament was burned out.....

Eventually they became rather scarce and expensive, so they switched to LEDs. That wasn't such a hot solution, either, however, as the display driver/multiplexer chip's on board oscillator radiated enough energy to cause the gun to "read" signals that weren't there. Of course this only happened in pre-production units. ;)

-Jim

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3071
